

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 01209 161632Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----101163 161642Z /50

O R 161557Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7481
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 1209

EXDIS

PARIS PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR GERARD SMITH

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, SF
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON VISIT OF GERARD SMITH

1. QUINTON PEEL, LOCAL CORRESPONDENT FOR LONDON'S "FINANCIAL TIMES" TOLD EMBASSY PRETORIA TODAY THAT HE HAD WORD FROM THE PAPER'S SCIENCE EDITOR, DAVID FISHLOCK, THAT GERARD SMITH WAS EITHER IN SOUTH AFRICA OR COMING SOON. ASKED HOW PEEL MIGHT CONTACT SMITH, EMBOFF SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE VISIT.

2. IF WORD OF SMITH'S PLANS TO VISIT SA HAS SOMEHOW LEAKED IN LONDON, IT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY NOT ESCAPE PUBLIC ATTENTION HERE. WE SHOULD THEREFORE BE PREPARED WITH MINIMAL PRESS GUIDANCE FOR USE AS AND WHEN APPROPRIATE. UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT THINKS WE SHOULD MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VISIT THAT WOULD BE COORDINATED IN ADVANCE WITH
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THE SAG, WE WOULD PROPOSE NOT TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ON THE EXACTTIMING OR EXPECTED DURATION OF THE VISIT BUT TO USE THE FOLLOWING TO CONFIRM TO PRESS INQUIRIES THAT THE VISIT IS TAKING PLACE: "AS INDICATED IN PREVIOUS PUBLIC STATEMENTS, WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTERNATIONAL CONCERN IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD. THE VISIT TO PRETORIA

OF AMBASSADOR SMITH REPRESENTS A STAGE IN A SERIES OF CONTACTS
WE HAVE HAD IN THIS REGARD. WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION
TO ADD AT THIS TIME."

3. DEPT PLEASE ADVISE.
EDMONDSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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